

MICHIGAN STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

September 19, 2018

Aeronautics Administration Building, Lansing, Michigan

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Todd A. Wyett, STC Chair
Michael D. Hayes, STC Vice Chair
Ron J. Boji, STC Commissioner
George K. Heartwell, STC Commissioner
Charles F. Moser, STC Commissioner
Helen Zeerip, STC Commissioner

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Tony Kratofil, COO, MDOT
David Brickey, Division Chief, Transportation Division of Attorney General
Myron Frierson, Director, MDOT Bureau of Finance and Administration
Phil Browne, Commission Advisor
Andrew Beardslee, Deputy Commission Advisor
Patrick McCarthy, MDOT Financial Operations
Kim Avery, MDOT Bureau of Field Services
Larry Doyle, MDOT Development Services Division
Ian Weibel, Federal Highways Administration (FHWA)
Jeff Cranson, Director, Office of Communications
Jack Cotter, Commission Auditor, Office of Commission Audits
ShuKeyna Thurman, Executive Assistant, Office of Commission Audits
About 8-10 people were in the audience; a sign-in list is attached to the official minutes.

I. WELCOME

Chair Wyett called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. OVERSIGHT

- ***Exhibit A: Contract Agreements – Myron Frierson***

Mr. Frierson presented information on 10 agreements. Pending any questions, Mr. Frierson asked for approval of Exhibit A.

Mr. Frierson opened the floor to the new Chief Operations Officer, Tony Kratofil, to present the I-75 Modernization Project, listed on the Exhibit A, Item 1.

Mr. Kratofil spoke about the 18 miles of freeway modernization to include reconstruction, addition of HOV lane, 47 bridges replaced, interchange improvements, and 4-mile-long drainage tunnel. Attached, please find the I-75 Modernization Project presentation slides given at the State Transportation Commission (STC) meeting for more information.

Chair Wyett requested a roll call for Item 1. Voting in favor were Chair Wyett, Vice Chair Hayes, Commissioner Boji, Commissioner Heartwell, Commissioner Moser, and Commissioner Zeerip, opposed were none, absent were none; **motion to approve carried.**

Chair Wyett requested a motion regarding approval of Exhibit A. Commissioner Hayes made a motion to approve and Commissioner Heartwell supported. Chair Wyett led a voice vote; all members present voted in favor; **motion to approve carried.**

- ***Exhibit A-1: Bid Letting Pre-Approvals – Myron Frierson***

Mr. Frierson presented information about Letting Statistics and Exhibit A-1. The State projects for September received a total of 22 bids. In comparison to September of 2017 totals, 9 State trunkline projects were let with total engineer estimates of \$8.4 million and low bid dollars of \$7.9 million. The State projects let in September of 2017 received a total of 34 bids. For fiscal year 2018 to date, 341 State trunkline projects were let with a low bid total of \$1.12 billion. In comparison to the same period for fiscal year 2017, 292 State projects were let with the low bid total of \$903.1 million. A total of 80 bids were received for the 26 projects let in September lettings, for an average of 3.08 bids received per project. For fiscal year 2018 through September 97.3% of State jobs anticipated for this period have been let using 94.9% of the projected cost estimates. For the same period of FY 2017, 96.8% of State jobs were let using 97.1% of the projected construction costs. Upcoming October 5 lettings are currently advertising 13 State trunkline projects with an engineer estimate of \$62.0 million. Of the 13 State projects, six include warranties with a total engineer estimate of \$50.5 million. In addition to the State projects advertised for this letting, 14 Local Area projects with total engineer estimates of \$30.6 million are scheduled to be let. Exhibit A-1 lists 17 projects. Pending any questions, Mr. Frierson asked for approval of Exhibit A-1.

Chair Wyett requested a motion regarding approval of Exhibit A-1. Commissioner Hayes made a motion to approve and Commissioner Heartwell supported. Chair Wyett led a voice vote; all members present voted in favor; **motion to approve carried**

- ***Exhibit A-2: Letting Exceptions – Larry Doyle***

Mr. Doyle provided information on 1 project that was over the engineer's estimate or had only one bidder. A justification memo was provided also for this project where/as the low bid exceeded the engineer's estimate by more than ten percent; the Office of Commission Audits has reviewed. Pending any questions, Mr. Doyle asked for approval of Exhibit A-2.

Chair Wyett requested a motion regarding approval of Exhibit A-2. Commissioner Boji made a motion to approve and Commissioner Heartwell supported. Chair Wyett led a voice vote; all members present voted in favor; **motion to approve carried.**

Chair Wyett requested David Brickey, Division Chief of the Transportation Division Attorney General, to elaborate on the MITA situation. Mr. Brickey offered up his thoughts on the matter but also stated that Jeff Cranson, Director of the Office of Communications, may be able to elaborate more. Mr. Brickey and Mr. Cranson explained that MDOT is not a party to the contract between MITA and the operators. In the event a contractor-labor impasse affects active construction projects, MDOT has contractual specifications that address the contractor's responsibilities. The contractors are always obligated to maintain a

safe work zone for motorists and are required to do so for the full duration of the project even during the delay caused by stalled contract talks.

MDOT planners and engineers work very hard to plan projects with minimal impact and inconvenience to travelers. MDOT officials hope the two sides reach an agreement soon.

Chair Wyett requested that the State Transportation Commission adopt a resolution accepting and supporting MDOT's position in the impasse between MITA and the Operating Engineers Local 324. Chair Wyett requested a motion regarding approval of the resolution. Commissioner Hayes made a motion to approve and Commissioner Heartwell supported. Chair Wyett led a voice vote; all members present voted in favor; **motion to approve carried.**

Chair Wyett opened the floor to Commission Boji. Commission Boji informed everyone that he will be resigning as of September 20, 2018, from the State Transportation Commission. His decision was based on certain future endeavors that he may be becoming involved in, it's best he resigns. He enjoyed his time with the State Transportation Commission and thanked everyone.

III. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business being before the Commission, Chair Wyett declared the meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

IV. NEXT MEETING

The next full meeting will be held Thursday, October 18, 2018, in Lansing, Michigan.

STC Approved October 18, 2018

Phil Browne
Commission Advisor